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The Public Service Commission State of South Carolina

COMMISSIONERS
Elizabeth B. "Lib" Fleming, Fourth District
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Swain E. Whitfield, At-Large

Docketing Department
Jocelyn G. Boyd, Deputy Clerk
Phone: (803) 896-5114
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December 17, 2008

The Honorable Andre Bauer
President of the Senate
State House, 1st Floor
East Wing
P.O. Box 142
Columbia, South Carolina 29202

Dear Lieutenant Governor Bauer:

The South Carolina Public Service Commission is respectfully submitting Document No. 4020 relating to the regulation of stretcher vans for legislative review. Inquiries regarding these regulations should be addressed to Jocelyn Boyd or David Butler at (803) 896-5100.

Thank you for your attention regarding this matter.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Charles L.A. Terreni". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "C" and "T".

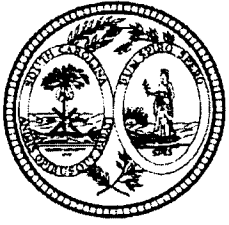
Charles L.A. Terreni
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Enclosure

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S.C. LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL



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December 17, 2008

The Honorable Robert William Harrell
Speaker of the House of Representatives
506 Blatt Building
Columbia, South Carolina 29211

Dear Mr. Speaker:

The South Carolina Public Service Commission is respectfully submitting Document No. 4020 relating to the regulation of stretcher vans for legislative review. Inquiries regarding these regulations should be addressed to Jocelyn Boyd or David Butler at (803) 896-5100.

Thank you for your attention regarding this matter.

Respectfully Submitted,

Charles L.A. Terreni
Chief Clerk and Administrator

Enclosures

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S.C. LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

DOCUMENT TRANSMITTAL FORM

This form must be completed and submitted with each document filed with the Editor of the *State Register* in the Legislative Council

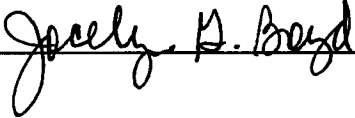
Agency Name Public Service Commission	1. Chapter Number 103	2. Date of Filing December 17, 2008
3. Regulation Number 26 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 103-133(8)	4. Subject of Regulation Stretcher Vans	

5. Statutory Authority

S.C. Code Ann. Section 58-3-140 (Supp. 2007)

6. Type of Filing

____ NOTICE OF GENERAL PUBLIC INTEREST
____ NOTICE OF DRAFTING
____ PROPOSED REGULATION
____ EMERGENCY REGULATION
☒ FINAL REGULATION FOR GENERAL ASSEMBLY REVIEW
____ RESUBMISSION OF WITHDRAWN REGULATION FOR GENERAL ASSEMBLY REVIEW
____ FINAL REGULATION EXEMPT FROM GENERAL ASSEMBLY REVIEW

5. For Additional Information, Contact		6. Telephone Number 896-5100
7. Typed Name of Official Jocelyn G. Boyd	8. Signature of Official 	9. Date December 17, 2008

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S.C. LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Document No. 4020
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF SOUTH CAROLINA
CHAPTER 103
Statutory Authority: 1976 Code Section 58-3-140

103-133(8) PC&N (Stretcher Vans)

Synopsis: The Public Service Commission of South Carolina (Commission) proposes to create a new regulation governing stretcher vans. The proposed regulation was previously published in the State Register on April 25, 2008, and the Commission held a public hearing regarding the proposed regulation on Wednesday, June 25, 2008. On August 27, 2008, the Commission voted to retain jurisdiction of the proposed stretcher van regulation at the Commission for further consideration and to reopen the written comment period, giving the public until October 31, 2008, to file written comments on the proposed regulation. The new promulgated stretcher van regulation defines stretcher vans and provides governing driver and assistant driver qualifications/requirements, vehicle requirements, and limitations and conditions of service.

Instructions: Print the regulation in accordance with directions given below to reflect new regulation.

103-133(8) print as shown below

Text:

103-133(8) PC&N (Stretcher Vans).

Stretcher van service is a mode of non-emergency transportation which may be provided to an individual who cannot be transported in a taxi or wheelchair van due to convalescence or being non-ambulatory. Stretcher vans are not required or authorized to provide medical monitoring, medical aid, medical care or medical treatment of passengers during their transport. Self-administered oxygen is permitted. In addition to meeting the requirements set out in 103-133(4) and 103-133(6) above, applicants for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity for stretcher van vehicles must meet the following requirements:

A. Driver and Assistant Driver Qualifications/Requirements

1. While providing transportation for hire, all stretcher vans shall be staffed by both a primary and an assistant driver. In addition to the general requirements provided for in 103-133(6) (A), stretcher van drivers and driver assistants shall be trained in transferring, loading and unloading passengers in stretchers.
2. A stretcher van passenger shall not be left unattended at any time.
3. The driver and driver assistant shall confirm that all restraining straps are fastened properly and the stretcher, stretcher fasteners and anchorages are properly secured prior to the vehicle transporting a passenger.
4. The driver assistant shall be seated in the passenger compartment while the vehicle is in motion and shall notify the driver of any change in the passenger's status.

B. Vehicle Requirements

1. The stretcher van must be equipped with a stretcher used to transport individuals in the supine or Fowler's position.

2. Passengers shall be loaded headfirst.
3. The approved stretcher shall be elevating and wheeled. A minimum of three (3) patient restraining straps (chest, waist, and thigh) at least two (2) inches wide shall be provided. The stretcher van shall have proper means to secure the stretcher in its position under all conditions. Crash-stable stretcher fasteners must be provided.
4. A stretcher van vehicle must be maintained in good repair and safe operating condition and shall meet the same motor vehicle safety requirements as apply to all vehicles in South Carolina. Exterior surfaces of the vehicle including windows, mirrors, warning devices and lights must be undamaged and kept clean of dirt and debris.
5. Safety belts must be provided for all passengers.
6. Self-administered oxygen must be secured in accordance with AMD (Ambulance Manufacturers Division of the National Truck Equipment Association) Standard 003, "Oxygen Tank Retention System Test."
7. The interior of the stretcher van vehicle shall include secured storage compartments.
8. All storage compartments, supplies and equipment shall be kept clean and sanitary.
9. A stretcher van shall not contain medical equipment or supplies or display any marking, symbols or warning devices that imply that it offers medical care or ambulance transportation.
10. A stretcher van shall not respond or transport a person if the request for service originated within a public dispatch system.

C. Limitations and Conditions of Service

1. Stretcher van vehicles shall not be used:

- a. To transport a passenger who requires medical monitoring.
- b. To transport more than one (1) stretcher passenger at a time.
- c. To transport a person who is being administered intravenous fluids.
- d. To transport a person who needs or may need oxygen unless that person's physician has prescribed oxygen as a self-administered therapy.
- e. To transport a passenger who needs or may need suctioning.
- f. To transport a passenger who has sustained an injury and has not yet been evaluated by a physician.
- g. To transport a passenger who is experiencing an acute condition or the exacerbation of a chronic condition or a sudden injury or illness.
- h. To transport a passenger who needs to be transported from one hospital to another hospital if the destination hospital is the same level or a higher level as the hospital of origin.
- i. To transport a passenger who is being evaluated in an emergency room and for any reason must be transported to another hospital for diagnostic tests that are not available at the first hospital.

2. An individual must not be transported in a stretcher van, if the individual has a written statement from a licensed physician stating that the individual must not be transported in a stretcher van.

Fiscal Impact Statement: There will be no increased costs to the State or its political subdivisions.

Statement of Rationale: The purpose of 26 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 103-133(8) is to create a regulation that governs stretcher vans. This regulation is needed to provide guidelines for non-emergency transportation for individuals who cannot be transported in a taxi or wheelchair van due to convalescence or being non-ambulatory. The proposed regulation provides vehicle, driver and assistant driver qualifications and further provides for limitations and conditions of service. There was no scientific or technical basis relied upon in the development of this regulation.